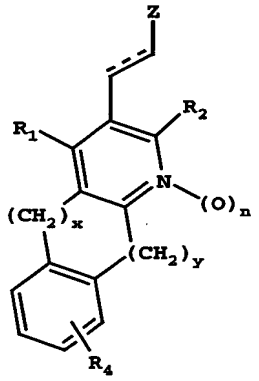
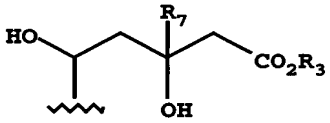
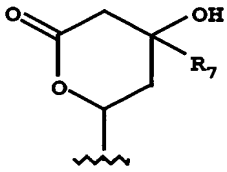
HMG-CoA REDUCTASE INHIBITORS AND METHOD

Abstract of the Disclosure

Compounds of the following structure are HMG CoA reductase inhibitors and thus are active in inhibiting cholesterol biosynthesis, modulating blood serum lipids, for example, lowering LDL cholesterol and/or increasing HDL cholesterol, and treating hyperlipidemia, dyslipidemia, hormone replacement therapy, hypercholesterolemia, hypertriglyceridemia and atherosclerosis as well as Alzheimer's disease and osteoporosis



and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof,

Z is  or  ;

n is 0 or 1;

x is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

y is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, provided that at least one of x and y is other than 0; and optionally one or more carbons of $(CH_2)_x$ and/or $(CH_2)_y$ together with additional carbons form a 3 to 7 membered spirocyclic ring;

R_1 and R_2 are the same or different and are independently selected from alkyl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl or cycloheteroalkyl;

R_3 is H or lower alkyl;

R_4 and R_7 are as defined herein.